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Central Florida Future

FREE • Published Mondays and Thursdays

The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

www.CentralFloridaFuture.com • Thursday, February 11, 2010

High hopes

Sweeny, Richardson and No. 4 class try to live up to hype — SEE SPORTS, A10



Last call tales

Late-night workers share their best, worst stories — SEE VARIETY, A13



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UCFnews.com



On Thursday:

NORML continues Medical Marijuana Month with guest speaker
by Justine Griffin

Black History Month continues with AASU forum on the media
by Natalie Richards

SGA Senate live blog
by Mary Cristobal

On Saturday:

Arboretum celebrates anniversary of organic community garden
by Tina Russell

VW CEO speaks on campus about status of the auto industry
by Kim Shelphman

On Sunday:

Paws in the Park draws students to Lake Eola
by Aimee Hoyt

Also check UCFnews.com for breaking news updates.



Breaking news on your cell

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LOCAL & STATE, A2

TALLAHASSEE POLICE LOOKING FOR MISSING WOMAN

Detectives in North Florida are searching for a 21-year-old woman whose vehicle was found in a Georgia city refuse site three days after her disappearance. Foul play has not been ruled out.

AROUND CAMPUS, A2

EAT CHEAP WINGS, DONATE MONEY TO HELP BABIES

The Division of Community Relations at UCF will be working with the Buffalo Wild Wings location in Waterford Lakes on Thursday to donate a portion of the bill to March of Dimes.

COMBINE YOUR RESUME FOR SUCCESS AS A STUDENT

UCF Career Services will be teaching students about the potential that is the combination résumé, which is a résumé format for students who are changing careers or lack field experience.

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TODAY'S WEATHER



Bill could force repayment

Proposal seeks to amend Bright Futures

COURTNEY GILMARTIN
Contributing Writer

Members of the Student Government Association said a new bill proposed to Florida's House of Representatives shouldn't deter prospective Knights.

The bill, if passed,



Are you moving after graduation?
www.UCFnews.com

would require students who move out of state after graduation to pay back their scholarships.

"The foundation of Bright Futures was always to keep the best and

brightest in-state, but I can't see how anyone would see this as the solution to the Bright Futures problem," said SGA Senator Marla Spector, chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee.

If House Bill 699 is

PLEASE SEE **SCHOLARSHIP** ON A8

PROPOSED CHANGES

- Students receiving Bright Futures would have to work within the state for at least one year or be required to repay their scholarship.
- Potential repayment would be delayed for students either electing to attend graduate school out of state or deciding to enlist in the armed forces.
- The changes would start beginning with the 2011-12 academic year and "serve as an incentive for students receiving an initial award to remain and work in the state by requiring payment of each award received unless the student receives credit for repayment."

— HOUSE BILL 699

Meet the candidates



Daniel Seeff: Presidential candidate

Year: Junior

Major: Accounting & finance

Kevin Wolkenfeld: Vice presidential candidate

Year: Sophomore

Major: Political science & pre-law

Seeff and Wolkenfeld will ask for input and fight fee increases

MARY CRISTOBAL
Staff Writer

Daniel Seeff is staying mum about his 2010 SGA presidential campaign platform.

"It's part of our strategy that we don't release all our platforms yet," said Seeff, a junior accounting and finance major. "But we can tell you that we've divided up our platform into four different points."

Seeff and his running mate, Kevin Wolkenfeld, will be focusing on community involvement, academics, green projects and

university traditions.

Wolkenfeld, a sophomore political science and pre-law major, said they would wait to disclose campaign specifics until the beginning of next week.

Seeff said that UCF has been lacking community involvement. "We're always trying to bring Orlando to UCF

instead of bringing UCF to Orlando," he said.

He would like to have UCF homecoming parades held in Downtown Orlando.

As for goals in academics, Wolkenfeld said they are cooking

PLEASE SEE **STUDENT** ON A7



Taylor Lochrane: Vice presidential candidate

Year: Graduate student

Major: Civil engineering

Michael Kilbride: Presidential candidate

Year: Senior

Major: Finance

Kilbride and Lochrane promise integrity, stewardship of funds

JESSICA MARTIN
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association presidential ticket of Michael Kilbride and Taylor Lochrane wants you to know that "the difference is you." That is their campaign slogan, and with it comes the promise of better student representation and a focus on realistic goals.

Kilbride, who is running for president, and Lochrane, his running mate for vice president, said that it is their diverse backgrounds that will help them

understand and better serve the student population.

Kilbride is a senior finance major who has been involved in various clubs and organizations on campus since 2007. Kilbride has been a member of the O-Team

and served as orientation coordinator in 2008. Last year, he was the student-at-large on the Greek

Council and the only non-Greek to serve on the council. For the past two years, Kilbride has been the executive director of Knight-Thon.

Lochrane is studying for his

PLEASE SEE **CANDIDATES** ON A7



Safe ride program sitting in neutral

KnightDrive waits for board's approval

JENNIFER ROSS
Staff Writer

The KnightDrive DUI prevention program UCF students revealed in November could be operational the week after spring break if university administrators give it a final stamp of approval.

Seth Green, the student director for the program, said the KnightDrive executive board is focusing on making sure student volunteers are trained and updating the program's manuals while waiting on consent from UCF's General Counsel to launch the program.

The office needs a general liability insurance quote before approving the program for operation, said Adam Brock, the program's deputy executive director.

General Counsel is a legal advisor.

PLEASE SEE **SAFE** ON A4

Deadline extended for scholarships from SGA

NATALIE RICHARDS
Contributing Writer

With more than \$140,000 up for grabs in scholarships, one would think the Student Government Association wouldn't have a problem finding qualified students.

For students still interested in these awards, the deadline for several SGA scholarships has been extended to Friday.

Only a few students applied for the scholarships, according to Jamie Kaplan, a College of Sciences senator and a member-at-large on the SGA Scholarship Committee.

Chris Cates, the student director of SGA scholarships, said that there was a problem with advertising because the SGA advertising department had moved to the Office of Student Involvement.

The scholarship with the largest

PLEASE SEE **ANNUAL** ON A6

AROUND CAMPUS

News and notices for the UCF community

Eat cheap wings for babies

The Division of Community Relations at UCF will be working with the Buffalo Wild Wings location in Waterford Lakes on Thursday from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m.

They will be selling wings for 60 cents, with a portion of the total bill being donated to the March of Dimes Collegiate Council at UCF.

March of Dimes seeks to end childhood illness and disease.

Call 386-837-3038 for more information.

Combine your résumé

UCF Career Services will be teaching students about the potential that is the combination résumé.

A combination résumé is an excellent résumé format for students who are changing careers and for students who don't have significant experience in their field of interest.

The information session will be Thursday from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. in the Career Services office.

Call 407-823-2361 for more information.

LOCAL & STATE

Keep local with headlines you may have missed

Police in Tallahassee looking for missing 21-year-old

TALLAHASSEE — Detectives in North Florida are searching for a 21-year-old woman whose vehicle was found in a Georgia city refuse site three days after her disappearance.

The Leon County Sheriff's Office says Danielle T. Brown was last seen leaving her home in Tallahassee on Friday. Her family reported her missing on Sunday, saying it was unusual for her not to be in contact.

On Monday, police in southern Georgia responded to a report of an abandoned car at the Pavo City Refuse Site. The vehicle was traced back to Brown. It had been damaged by fire and was secured as possible evidence.

A spokesman with the Leon County Sheriff's Office says foul play has not been ruled out.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

LET US KNOW

The Future is working to compile information about organizations and events in the UCF community for our calendar on UCFNews.com and the Around Campus section of the paper.

If you know of any information you or your organization would like us to include, send an e-mail to Events.CFF@gmail.com

IN THE BIG SEAT



Senate appointee enters the world of legislation

RACHEL PURDY
Contributing Writer

One year ago, Alan Hardman was too intimidated to walk into the Student Government Association office.

"There's kind of a stigma that the Student Government Association is in their own world," Hardman said.

This year he'll be spending a lot more time there. At the Feb. 4 SGA meeting, senators unanimously voted Hardman, now in his second year at UCF majoring in management, to fill the vacant College of Business Administration Seat 7.

Becoming a member of the Senate Leadership Committee and the vice chair on SGA's Scholarship Committee are what Hardman said helped him find his place.

Hardman, who campaigned unsuccessfully for a senate seat last fall, took his seat at the legislative table remembering what encouraged him to apply.

"I saw things that I wanted to fix," Hardman said. "I saw legislation that I wanted to be a part of."

He said his top priority is to fund student organizations to attend conferences in order to gain knowledge and to network, while promoting the university. As secretary of Delta Epsilon Chi, or College DECA, Hardman said he realized this importance after receiving SGA funds to attend a conference in California.

Meeting with the College of Business Administration's dean, Thomas Keon, to voice student concerns is also an important aspect of his position, Hardman said.

SGA President Brian Peterson, who appointed Hardman on Jan. 28 before his senate confirmation, offered some advice to the new senator.

"I ran as a senator my freshman year, got on and was kind of taken back by everything that the stu-

dent government has responsibility of overseeing," Peterson said. "I would encourage Alan, and anyone that might find themselves in a similar situation, to take a deep breath and realize that they're there to do good for the student body."

One way Hardman said he wants to meet student needs is by extending the hours of the computer labs within the business complex. Since finances are increasingly a student need, he also said he hopes that students will take better advantage of attaining the most unrealized resource at UCF: scholarships.

"Out of 53,000 students, we put out 20 scholarships and we get a maximum of 60 applicants for the scholarship," Hardman said of his experience working as vice chair of the Scholarship Committee.

Since "getting his feet wet" with the Scholarship Committee last semester, Hardman has attended every senate meeting, familiarizing himself with statutes and Robert's Rules of Order (a recognized guide to running meetings and conferences effectively). Hardman has interacted with many senators, cabinet members and other individuals involved with SGA, but he specifically credits President Pro Tempore Joshua Miller as a mentor, who taught him how to write a bill and how to conduct himself in senate.

Miller, who has served as a senator for three years, said Hardman has potential.

"He's only a sophomore, but I can see him moving up and becoming president pro tempore," said Miller, a junior majoring in history and political science.

Internal Affairs Coordinator Aileen Garcia reviewed 14 applications for Hardman's seat before recommending him. In addition to his hardworking and eager attitude, Garcia said she was also very impressed by one characteristic.

"He's always in the office," Garcia, a senior majoring in health sciences, said. "He's always accessible."

Have you been to a senate meeting?
www.UCFNews.com

GEORGE OEHLE / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

LOCAL WEATHER



Today
PARTLY CLOUDY
High: 58°
Low: 43°

TODAY IN DETAIL

Today: Ten percent chance of rain. Northwest wind around 11 mph.

Tonight: Cloudy into the evening. North northwest wind around 6 mph.



Friday
T-SHOWERS

High: 56°
Low: 45°



Saturday
MORNING CLOUDS

High: 58°
Low: 41°

Central Florida Future

The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

February 11, 2010
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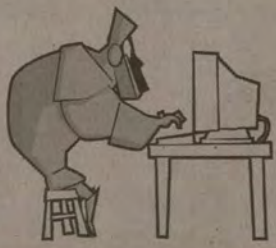


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Interns from UCF help with easy breathing

BRANDI BROXSON
Contributing Writer

More than 20,000 people gathered at the Colonial TownPark in Lake Mary on Sunday for the largest charitable car show in the southeastern United States. "Cars for the Cure" was hosted by the American Lung Association of Florida, Central Area and was run by 14 interns from UCF.

The sixth annual fundraising event featured more than 60 luxury, vintage and exotic cars, including a customized Bugatti convertible valued at \$1.5 million. Numerous vendors also set up tents around the area.

"We really benefit from sharing the same community with the third largest university in the nation," said Eric Gray, executive director of the American Lung Association of Florida.



Interns from UCF hosted the sixth annual Cars for the Cure, a car show that attracted more than 20,000 people.

tion of Florida.

With more than 100 years of service, the ALA is the oldest voluntary health organization in the United States.

The association gives interns the chance to excel in their field and practice what they've learned while at UCF.

Many of the students

who intern with the ALA are hospitality majors from Rosen College; others are health science and advertising/public relations majors.

"The students we get are well trained," Gray said.

This is the fourth year the event has been run by interns.

Brittany McCracken, a hospitality management major, coordinated this year's event. It is her third year with the association.

"We are a very hands-on organization," McCracken said.

She is planning numerous other events during her year-long internship and enjoys the work that she does.

"This is the best job that I've ever had," she said.

The interns spent their windy 13-hour workday helping vendors and car owners set up and accepting donations from event-goers. The association hopes to raise \$100,000 through donations and car owner registration fees.

Money raised from the

car show will help to run an array of programs including lung cancer support groups and Open Airways for Schools, an asthma management program for schoolchildren.

Preparation for the event included sending out registration packets, getting sponsors organized and running ads in local media outlets.

"We all work together," said intern Angela Bassolino. "It's that team mentality that helps it run smoothly."

An advertising/public relations major, this is Bassolino's first internship with the ALA; UCF's Experiential Learning helped find the internship. She said she is proud to be a part of an organization that is diligently helping the Central Florida community.

"We all have the same goal: to promote lung health."

Multicultural Student Center hosts GLBTQ workshop

NICOLE LAUBER
Contributing Writer

The Multicultural Student Center held its first "GLBTQ 101" workshop Tuesday to help students gain a better understanding of homosexuality, bisexuality and transgenderism.

Although the organization has hosted other events regarding information sessions on homosexuality, this was the first of its kind.

Interaction among the attendees and speakers was encouraged as they discussed the pros and cons of UCF's status for the GLBTQ — gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning — community

on campus.

The one benefit attendees came up with was the available resources at our university: the UCF ALLIES Program and Knight Allies. ALLIES is a program that allows students, staff and faculty members to show their support of the GLBTQ community by displaying a placard with two symbols homosexuals identify with: a pink triangle and a rainbow.

Michael Freeman, the coordinator of education and training programs for UCF's Diversity Initiatives, was the main speaker of the workshop. Although Freeman is a supporter of ALLIES, he feels that UCF

needs to move forward toward becoming more accepting of the GLBTQ community.

"Will there be a time when we no longer have to have placards displayed in order for people to feel safe?" Freeman asked the group. "If we're the third largest university in the nation, let's start acting like it by taking the necessary measures [for the GLBTQ community]."

Attendees at the workshop agreed that a complete change in attitude wouldn't happen overnight, but for now, students can become a member of Knight Allies to help reach a goal of total acceptance for the GLBTQ community.

The group is a registered student organization that allows UCF students, especially heterosexual students, to help create a better community for anyone that associates with GLBTQ.

Nathan Wong, the director of the speaker's bureau for Knight Allies, attended the workshop. By being open and honest in their words and actions, Wong believes students can bolster support for the GLBTQ community at UCF.

"Knight Allies aims to support and educate students on the GLBTQ community and what it means to be open to the culture," the hospitality management major said.

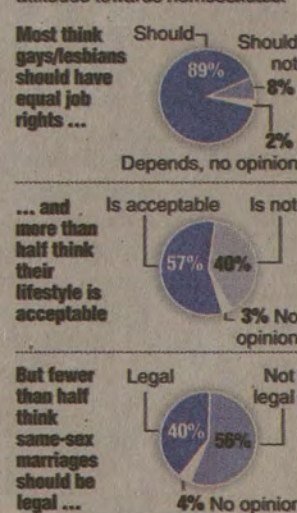
"We don't force the politics on members."

Among the disadvantages students came up with for the GLBTQ community at UCF was the lack of a gender studies program. Julio Oyola, the graduate assistant for the Multicultural Student Center, hopes to create a series of workshops that is similar to a gender studies program, but without a degree attached to it.

"It's an invisible culture, and people make assumptions about it," he said in regard to the GLBTQ community. "By introducing students to what it's all about, we're one step closer to progress."

Feelings about gays, lesbians

Results of a recent poll on U.S. attitudes towards homosexuals:



HPV Fact #16:

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21050004(39)-01/10-GRD



FROM A1

Green, a senior account-

When students are ready to be picked up, they will call KnightDrive and give a dispatcher their name and

According to Brock, KnightDrive currently has a base of about 50 student volunteers and will be using five Avis rental cars for the safe ride service. He said the program's operational boundaries have not changed and the plan is still to take students to University Boulevard and Alafaya Trail locations.

— ALEX KAPLAN
KNIGHTDRIVE MARKETING DIRECTOR

"I can't wait to see what the future holds for us," he said.

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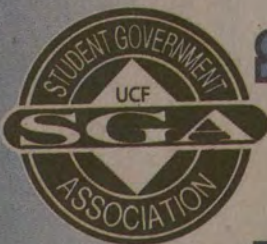
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Location: SU Pegasus Ballroom

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Date: Feb. 16, 2pm

Location: Key West AB

GOV. AFFAIRS SPEAKER SERIES

Date: Feb. 26, 11:30am

Location: Cape FL CD

CRAM 4 THE EXAM

Date: Feb. 27, 7:30pm - 1am

Location: Library

SENATE MEETING

Date: Every Thursday at 7pm

Location: Key West Ballroom

ASK FOR ACTION TABLING

Date: Every Tuesday at 1pm

Location: Student Union Atrium

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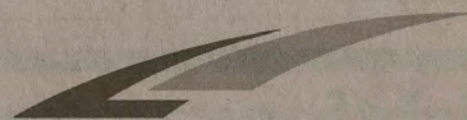
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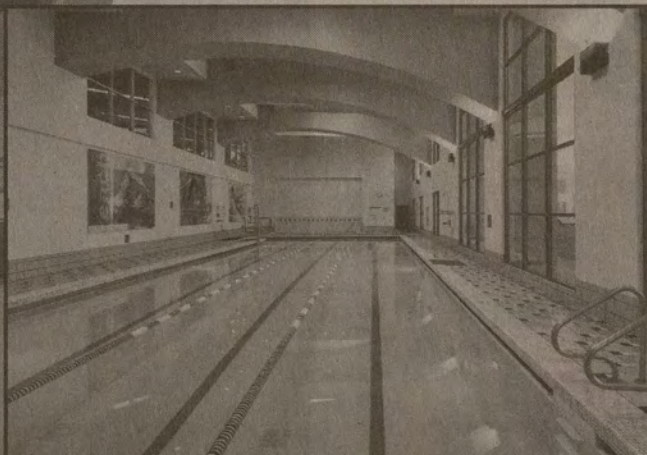
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Annual bike auction helps fund scholarships

FROM A1

allocation of money, the SGA Regional Student Achievers Scholarship, is among the scholarships with extended deadlines. This scholarship awards 30 students \$500 awards, a total of \$15,000.

Several of the scholarships award more than \$1,000 based on varying specifics.

Students indirectly fund most of the scholarship money by way of the Activity and Service fee.

The fee, which is used for university agencies such as the Campus Activities Board and the Multicultural Student Center, is a fee that every UCF student pays.

Once they receive the entire fee payment, SGA stores the payment in the bank. The interest accrued from that account is allocated toward scholarships for the following year.

Kaplan said that scholarships are also partially funded by reverted money, which is money that hadn't been used that previous year. It can come from different sources, such as events that did not use all of the money budgeted for them.

Kaplan said a substantial amount of money also



KEVIN HARRIS / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Students can apply for scholarships in the SGA and Financial Assistance offices.

comes from the bike auction that the UCF Police Department holds every year.

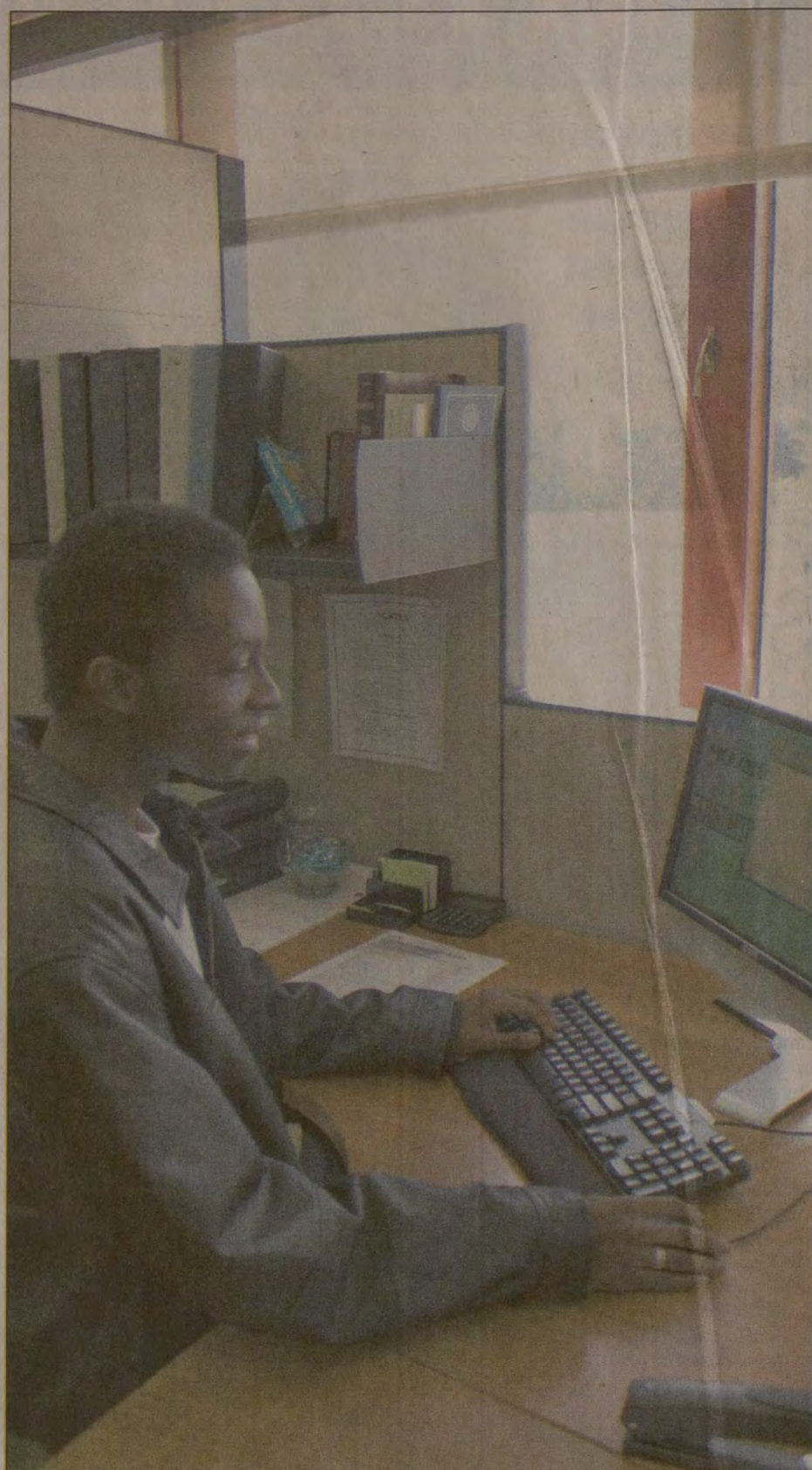
Some of the scholarship money is awarded at events during the semester, such as the Quiz Bowl, a competition where teams of four students compete in a question and answer game of general knowledge and quick recall.

Though some students are benefiting from the fees in the form of scholarships, others believe the money

should be put to better use.

"We shouldn't be giving out free money to people," Krystal Manieram, a senior digital media major, said when she heard about SGA giving prize money toward the dance competition. "It shouldn't be like 'Here's free money. Come and get it.' We should be putting that towards a worthy cause."

The left over interest should be given to a foundation for Haiti or towards a foundation for research or cancer, Manieram said.



KEVIN HARRIS / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Chris Cates, the student director in charge of the SGA scholarship program, works at his desk in Millican Hall.

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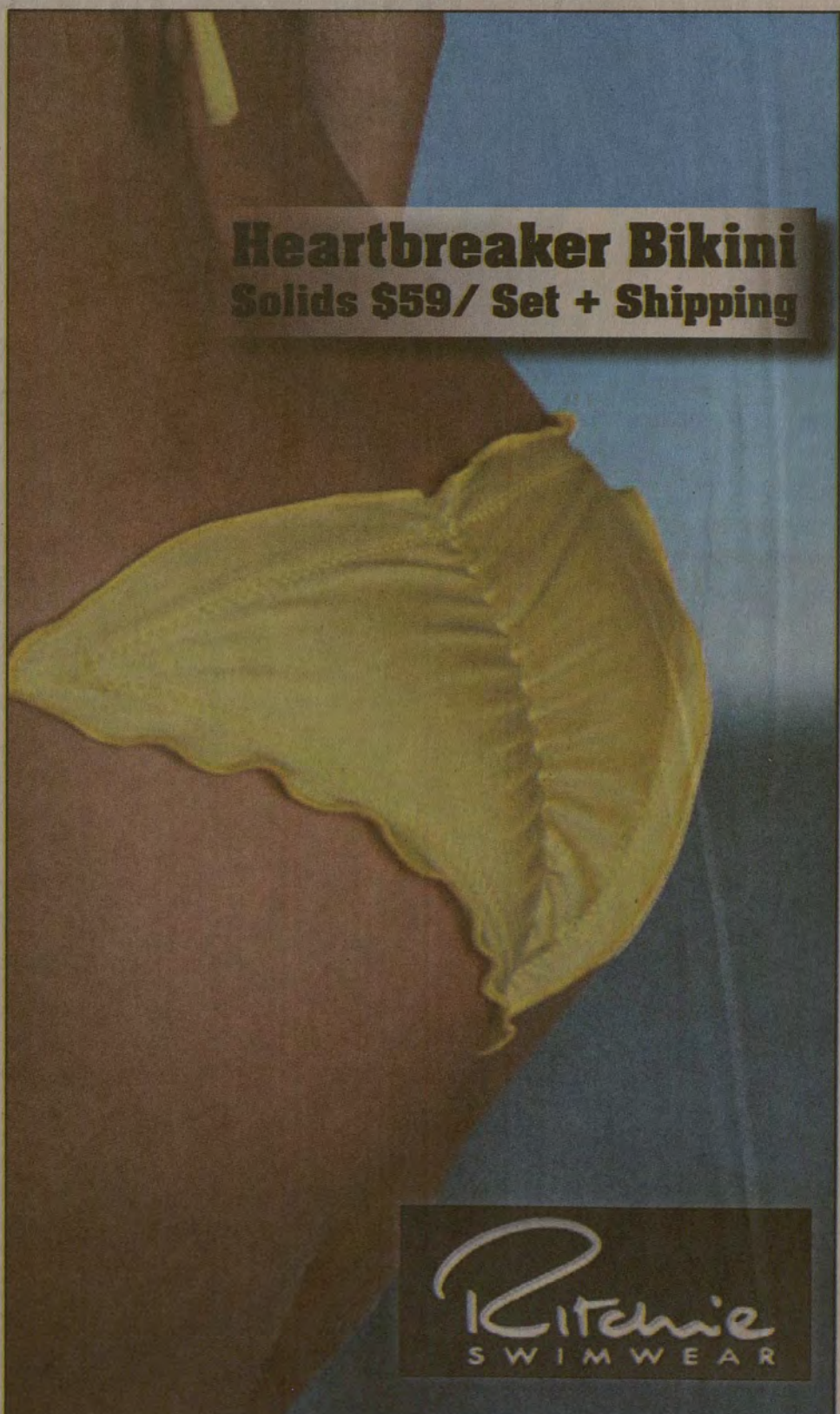
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Seeff and Wolkenfeld said they want more students, especially freshmen, to be involved with the SGA process.

Student input wanted

FROM A1

up some original ideas, but they want to keep it under wraps for now. Regarding the cost of attending UCF, “We’re going to fight to end the unnecessary fee increases,” said Seeff, who also wants more Bright Futures scholarships available for students. The SGA presidential candidate and his running mate would not disclose any specifics about their green initiatives. They also want to focus on partnerships with other universities’ student government associations, such as Florida State University, the University of Florida and Texas A&M University. Seeff said meetings with student organizations’ leaders helped him come up with their campaign platforms. “I personally and randomly walked up to students and asked them

what they’d like to see UCF and SGA do,” Wolkenfeld said. Wolkenfeld was a member of the Student Body President’s Advisory Council during the Logan Berkowitz and Brandon Delanois administration. The North Miami Beach native is serving his first term as a College of Sciences senator. Wolkenfeld is also the vice president of his fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Pi. Seeff packed his bags from South Africa to become a UCF Knight. He worked in London for a couple of months before his move to Central Florida. As a founding member of Chabad Jewish Student Group, he became heavily involved with SGA. “From dealing with SGA for allocations, I decided SGA is where I want to build my career in UCF leadership,” Seeff said.

Seeff ventured on as a business strategist for the executive branch during the Berkowitz and Delanois administration. “I like how our administration is doing more visual things, like the new printing lab, at the same time while maintaining integrity and the social structure of SGA,” Wolkenfeld said. Seeff said the current president has done a great job. “He’s done a lot for the university being involved with SGA since he was a freshman,” Seeff said. “And we definitely need more people like that.” Seeff and Wolkenfeld are pushing for all students, especially freshmen, to get involved with SGA. “The number one thing we’re looking forward to is student input,” Wolkenfeld said. “That’s how we started this campaign, and that’s how we’re going to run our administration.”

Candidates promise to lead with integrity

FROM A1

doctorate in civil engineering. He has been a student at UCF for six years. He has held a number of leadership positions and has joined various organizations on campus. As an undergraduate, Lochrane had different leadership roles as a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. He is currently the president of the Institute for Transportation Engineers at UCF and served as the graduate student adviser for the UCF American Society of Civil Engineers chapter last year. Kilbride serves as chief of operations and Lochrane works as graduate affairs

specialist in the Peterson-Lewis administration. Both look at their current positions as significant learning experiences. “I think we’ve proven that we can deliver on promises,” Lochrane said. For Kilbride, the position has given him a chance to grow as a person. “My experiences have built me as a person and a leader,” he said. “It’s given me the opportunity to build key relations with people in charge.” Their platform seems to reflect the fact that they

want more students involved in the student government process. A few of their key initiatives are implementing a car pool system, increasing the amount of study space on campus, increasing the number of SGA-funded scholarships, supporting Greek life and highlighting Greek accomplishments. Kilbride and Lochrane promise to deliver on their platform, but they also promise students that they will lead with integrity, be good stewards of students’ dollars and will always be open to listen to new ideas and students’ concerns. “Our best campaign goal is your best idea,” Kilbride said.

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Scholarship repayment would include interest

FROM A1

passed, beginning in the 2011-12 academic year, high school students would have to pledge their intent to work in-state for at least one year after graduating from college to be eligible for the Bright Futures scholarship.

Students who work in Florida for at least one year after graduation would not be required to repay their scholarships.

However, students who move out of Florida within one year of graduation would be obligated to pay back the money they were awarded.

"I'm not in favor of that, and I can't imagine too many students are," said Joshua Miller, president pro tempore of the SGA Senate.

The Department of Education would determine the schedule of repayment, and students would have to pay back the total amount awarded, plus an annual 8 percent interest.

According to the bill, the payment schedule could be

postponed for students pursuing graduate degrees out-of-state or enlisting in the military.

The bill was filed by Rep. Stephen Precourt, R-41, in January, but so far it has not made much progress in the House.

"It was referred to the State Universities & Private Colleges Appropriation Committee on Jan. 28," said Rep. Geraldine Thompson, D-39, who is a member of the committee. "It has not been heard or placed on the agenda for discussion yet."

Members of SGA said the bill's slow progress and extreme nature weaken its chances of passing.

"We haven't seen it move at all, so we're not too worried about it," Spector said.

However, if it did begin to move through the House, Spector said SGA would fight its passage by calling representatives and contacting lobbyists.

"I've been in college for over a year and I don't even know what I want to do after I graduate," she said.

She said it would be next

to impossible for high school students to guarantee that Florida would be the best place for their career fields before they even begin college and decide on a major.

"What happens if you want to go to grad school? What happens if you want to go to law school?" said Vinny Cannizzaro, SGA governmental affairs coordinator. "You just don't know what you're going to be doing four years down the road."

He said the bill attempts to solve the problem of workers leaving the state, but is disguised as Bright Futures reform.

"It's fixing something, but not Bright Futures," Cannizzaro said. "We've been talking about it for a while and we don't know how much of an issue it will be."

Instead, SGA proposes reforming Bright Futures by changing the requirements, making it more difficult for students to earn the 100 percent and 75 percent scholarships, by creating a new 50 percent tier.

Cannizzaro said that a group of state legislators should be organized to consider the possibilities for changing the scholar-

ship, but he added that many elected officials are wary of taking a stance on Bright Futures reform. "[Bright Futures] is

such a hot-button issue that no one wants to touch it yet," Cannizzaro said. "It's too big a political risk."

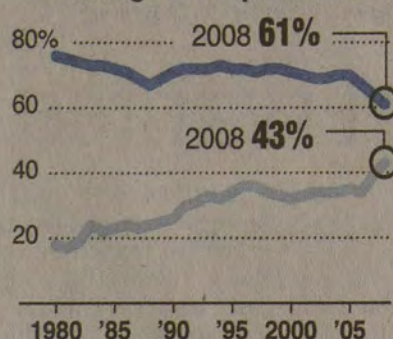
Expensive choices

As the amount of tuition loans rises, students deciding on colleges are increasingly weighing finances as a major factor.

Choosing a school

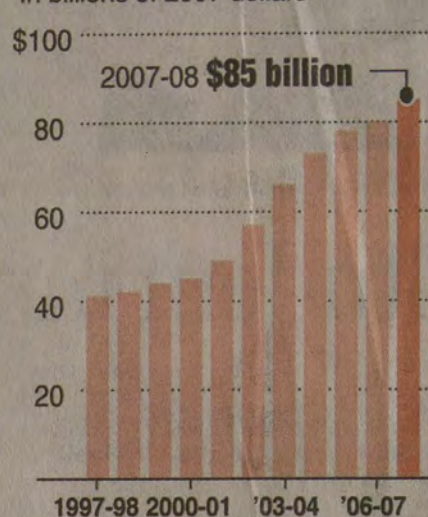
- Attended "first choice" college or university
- Offer of financial aid "very important" to decision

Percentage of respondents



Total college loans

In billions of 2007 dollars



Net college costs as a percent of median family income*



Source: 2008 Freshman Study, Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA (school choice data); College Board, National Center for Education Statistics, National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education

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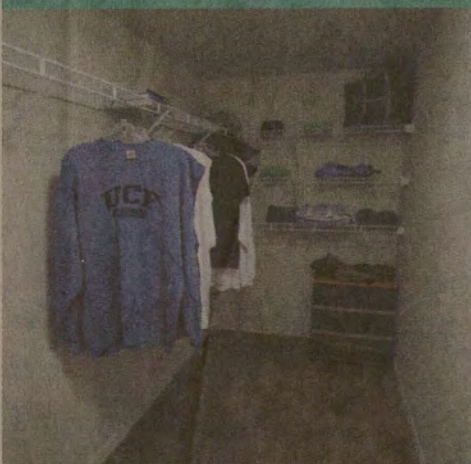
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NATIONAL SPORTS WRAP

BASKETBALL



DURANT'S 33 POINTS HELPS EXTEND THUNDER'S STREAK

PORTLAND, Ore. — Kevin Durant had 33 points and 11 rebounds to help Oklahoma City extend its season-high winning streak to six games with an 89-77 victory over Portland on Tuesday night.

It's the 25th straight game that Durant has scored 25 or more points — the longest streak since Allen Iverson did it in 27 consecutive games during the 2000-01 season.

Jeff Green scored 17 points and James Harden 13 as Oklahoma City (30-21) ended a four-game losing streak to Portland.

The Thunder defense did a job on the Trail Blazers, who committed 24 turnovers and shot only .403, hitting 31 of 77 attempts from the floor.

Andre Miller scored 22 points to lead Portland. LaMarcus Aldridge had 15 points and 12 rebounds for the Blazers (29-22).

Nicolas Batum, who scored 12 points, made his first start of the season for Portland. The 6-foot-8 Batum, who started 76 games last year as a rookie, missed this season's first 45 games recovering from shoulder surgery.

It was the first time these two former Northwest rivals have played in Portland this season. Seattle moved its Sonics franchise to Oklahoma City prior to the start of the 2008-09 season. There was a smattering of fans around the Rose Garden wearing a Seattle Sonics t-shirt or holding signs saying "Save Our Sonics."

Durant scored the game's first four points to help Oklahoma City to a 15-2 lead 5 minutes into the first quarter. Batum answered scoring nine points during the period as Portland cut the deficit to 23-17 heading into the second quarter.



LARGE HALFTIME LEAD HELPS MIAMI SNAP FIVE-GAME SKID

MIAMI — Desperate to snap a five-game losing streak, the Miami Heat raced to their largest halftime lead of the season and beat the short-handed Houston Rockets 99-66 on Tuesday night.

The Heat shot 13 for 15 during a 97-minute stretch in the first half and led 56-31 at halftime.

Dwyane Wade had 17 points and seven assists before sitting out the fourth quarter. He was also on the bench for a breather to start the second quarter when the Heat outscored Houston 17-4 to go up 41-20.

Houston was without guards Trevor Ariza (hip pointer) and Kyle Lowry (sprained left ankle). The Rockets shot 30 percent, including 4 for 18 from 3-point range, and their point total was a season low.

It was Miami's fourth win by at least 30 points this season.

Six players scored in double figures for the Heat, who swept the two-game season series. Udonis Haslem made seven of his first eight shots and finished with 14 points and 14 rebounds. Reserve Dorell Wright reached his career high in assists after 16 minutes and finished with seven to go with nine points and six rebounds.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

BASEBALL

THIRD IN A FOUR-PART SERIES. NEXT THURSDAY: SEASON PREVIEW AND TEAM BREAKDOWN

High hopes

UCF's No. 4 recruit class tries to live up to hype

RYAN BASS
Sports Editor

UCF baseball head coach Terry Rooney didn't let the excitement resonate long after he was hired to take over the program back on June 12, 2008.

He spent the next full day doing what he does best: recruiting. Two of UCF's newest additions to the 2010 roster, Ronnie Richardson and Darnell Sweeney, were two of the first talents targeted by Rooney.

"[They] were two of the very first kids that I recruited when I got the job here," said Rooney, who is entering his second season with the Knights. "Coach Godwin and I, immediately after getting the job, drove from Baton Rouge to Orlando, spent 24 hours straight in here, and we both went up to Atlanta to see these guys play. I had already seen these guys play before, so I had them on the radar already."

Both Richardson and Sweeney highlight was is the best recruiting class to ever come through the UCF program. Nationally, they are getting attention as well, being ranked as the No. 4 class in the nation according to *Collegiate Baseball*. It will be a tall task to live up to all the hype, but Sweeney says these guys are up to the task.

"We are ready for the hype," said Sweeney, a short-stop from Mirmiar that was selected by the Florida Marlins in the 41st round of the 2009 MLB Draft. "We are

PLEASE SEE CLASS ON A12



COURTESY UCF ATHLETICS

Freshman CF Ronnie Richardson was the highest drafted recruit out of the 2010 class for UCF, being selected by the Minnesota Twins in the 11th round of the 2009 Major League Baseball Player Draft.

Men's golf

Ragland, Knights open in Gainesville

WILL PERRY
Sports Editor

The Knights open their spring campaign in familiar territory Saturday at the Gator Invitational in Gainesville — territory that is even more familiar to UCF assistant men's golf coach Toby Ragland.

Ragland, in his first season at UCF, played for Florida just last year and won the individual title at the Gator in dramatic fashion with a birdie on the seventh playoff hole to beat teammate Billy Horschel.

"I'm very excited to get back there," Ragland said.

"It's going to be a fun event. It's going to be very different being on the other side of the fence, because every time I've been there, we've won the event hands down and expected to win from the time we teed it up."

Last year, the Gators did just that, distancing themselves by 18 shots over Ole Miss to pick up their sixth consecutive win at the 54-hole tournament. The Knights finished third at 6-over-par 846 and have either opened or competed at the Gator Invitational early on in their spring schedule five of the past six seasons.

Simon Ward, a senior, was also a part of the playoff after he found himself tied with Ragland and Horschel at 5-under-par 205, but Ward was eliminated after Ragland and Horschel each made birdie on the third playoff hole.

Ragland plans to use the knowledge he collected in his four years playing the event and the countless rounds he played at the Marc Bostick Golf Course to help the Knights in any way he can.

As a Gator, Ragland said he and his teammates

PLEASE SEE TEAM ON A12



COURTESY UCF ATHLETICS

Nuno Henriques picked up one top-10 and two top-20 finishes in four events in the fall for the UCF men's golf team. He is looking to have a big impact in spring.

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2010 UCF BASKETBALL

Softball

Conference title key piece to softball's puzzle

CARLOS PINEDA
Staff Writer

Taped inside every locker of the UCF softball players are goals for the upcoming season.

"Be consistent," "one body" and "be up and involved" are just a few of the sayings.

These are just small pieces of the puzzle for a program looking to accomplish so much this season.

The objective is to take care of the puzzle, one piece at a time. The process is simple, yet can be distorted if the Knights focus too much on the bigger picture not on each piece. The ultimate goal is a Conference USA title and a trip to the NCAA Tournament.

Head coach Renee Luers-Gillispie said the first step of puzzle is how this squad performs within the conference.

"If we don't get through conference and we don't do well in conference, then none of the rest matters," Luers-Gillispie said. "If you look too far ahead, you forget the pieces."

All in all, the big picture ends in Oklahoma City, the site of the Women's College World Series, but for the Knights to get there, a lot has to be accomplished.

UCF recorded an 11-12 record in C-USA in 2009, something they have to improve upon to make an impression this season.

The Knights face nine teams that were ranked in the *USA Today/NFCA* Top 25 a year ago. Of the Knights 2010 opponents, 15 made the NCAA Tournament and three made it

to the World Series.

"I am excited about it," Luers-Gillispie said, "And the kids are too. Any time you get a chance to play top-level competition like that ... our first weekend out you're looking at Oklahoma and UCLA."

Luers-Gillispie said it is important to face teams like that early on to have a measuring stick of where you stand as a team.

The game against the Bruins will give the Knights some exposure as Bright House Network will air the game.

The University of Florida and Florida State University also pay visits to the UCF Softball Complex.

"It is going to be nice to have a home contest with them," Luers-Gillispie said. "Being able to have some of these big games at home is huge. To have your own fans in the stands is that much more of a bonus and you've got that support system that you don't have when you're on the road."

Senior Ashleigh Cole finished at the top of almost every pitching category for UCF with a 17-8 record, a 2.42 ERA and 106 strikeouts last season.

Kristina DeMello enters with a year in Orlando under her belt. DeMello was 8-8 with a 2.69 ERA and 106 strikeouts in 2009.

Joining them from the bullpen are juniors Diana Rojas and Ashley Schmitt and freshman Kazandra Holliday.

In the infield, junior shortstop Tiffany Lane was selected to the Pre-season All-Conference Team. Lane has been a speedster around the

bases as she legged out eight triples last season.

Senior third baseman Hillary Barrow tied the UCF single-season record with 16 doubles.

"We don't like talking about last year," Barrow said of the team's 27-27 record in 2009. "I'd like to just put it behind us and for this year we can figure out the mistakes we had last year and work on it."

Sophomore Natalie Land is a year wiser and will start at second base. In 2009, Land was named to the C-USA All-Freshman Team.

The first base position is vacant with the exodus of Breanne Javier. A pair of freshmen, Marissa Menendez and Arielle Palafox will step into the role.

Luers-Gillispie said she has been impressed with Menendez and that she will see playing time at the first base position.

The outfield features two seniors and a sophomore. Vanessa Perez, a sophomore, led the team with 13 sacrifices and returns to center field.

Senior right fielder Mary Helen Tyler looks

to succeed in her second season with the Knights while Morgan Bullard, a senior, looks to be healthy after suffering an injury early on.

Behind home plate, is a healthy Abby McClain. McClain was named to the

All-C-USA Second Team last season. Backing up McClain are freshman Sam Soltis and junior Lindsey Paulilis.

"We have a strong program and we're going to do well this year," Luers-Gillispie said.



Senior pitcher Ashleigh Cole finished with a 17-8 record and a 2.42 ERA with 106 strikeouts in 2009 and is looking to repeat that success this season.



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Class ready to prove worth in conference

FROM A10

going to be here ready and play hard because we know what we have to do, because we have been doing this since we were little kids. It is no different now. It's the same game of baseball."

The Knights welcome in 21 newcomers to the 2010 squad to complement 14 returning players. Among these new arrivals, 10 come as transfers from junior colleges and six were drafted by MLB teams.

Rooney says that this class ranks among the most talented in the nation.

"I think [this class] certainly, from a pure talent standpoint, ranks among some of the best classes in the country," he said. "A lot of these kids had opportunities to go to some marquee-named programs, and they decided to come here because of the vision that they believe and what we are doing."

Rooney also addressed the pitching staff in the offseason with some JUCO talent, namely Owen Dew and Alex Besaw. Both are vying to pitch at the top of the rotation after having success in junior college, and both chose to come to UCF before trying their luck in the pros.

"We signed Owen Dew and Alex Besaw for one reason, and that's to pitch in the front end of our rotation," Rooney said. "They are both successful junior college pitchers that have been drafted before. Both of these guys

'I think [this class], certainly from a pure talent standpoint, ranks among some of the best classes in the country.'

—TERRY ROONEY
UCF HEAD COACH

come with some great accolades, but they are not the finished product... they are going to go through some growing pains too at this level of college baseball."

The Knights have the potential to have seven of their nine positions filled by players that have been drafted by MLB teams, showing just how much depth the 21 newcomers bring to the roster.

As far as living up to expectations, Rooney described the formula, but he knows it will take some time.

"I think the formula is two-fold," he said. "One, it's patience, and No. 2, it's unselfishness. There is so many good players in this class, and as a team we have to be patient to know that as talented as they might be, it will take some time to put the pieces to the puzzle."

"They are going to experience some failure, and they have to learn to deal with it. As far as unselfishness... they have to understand that it is team first, so how they respond to adversity is going to be a big part of that."

With East Carolina, Southern Miss and Rice all garnering national pre-season rankings, the

Knights have been an afterthought in C-USA despite having a higher-ranked class than all three of those teams. Richardson is concerned with getting attention in those rankings and not just the ones in recruiting.

"It's an honor to know that we were nationally recognized by the guys coming into this class, but we are not done yet by the fact that they still have us ranked last in our conference," Richardson said. "Some people think we are going to live up to the hype and some people don't, so we just have to go out there and play our game."

Richardson and Sweeny helped Rooney's class attract national attention, but once the season starts on Feb. 19, Rooney knows none of those rankings will matter if the team doesn't produce on the field.

"I want them to embrace it because it's an honor," Rooney said. "I think it's fantastic for them collectively as a group and I think it's great for our baseball program, but from this point forward that ranking is only as good as what they do on the field. That's the attitude that we are taking."



COURTESY UCF ATHLETICS

Alex Besaw will be one of the JUCO transfers counted on to help lead the Knights in the starting rotation.

Team adjusting from fall

FROM A10

played some of the holes "a little differently" and often enjoyed watching other teams make mistakes that he and his teammates learned from very quickly as freshmen.

"I'm going to enjoy the challenge of coaching this team through this event and going there, preparing the best we can," Ragland said. "I obviously have knowledge about the golf course, so that will be fun to use, being on this side of it, preparing these guys to have the best tournament they can there."

The Knights will be one of 14 teams to tee it up at the Gator Invitational.

Falling into a new way

The fall season was a transition period for the Knights under first-year head coach Bryce Wallor, who left Tennessee as an assistant to take over for Nick Clinard, who departed for Auburn.

On top of that, UCF also had to deal with the loss of its two best players in Blayne Barber, who followed Clinard to Auburn, and David Johnson, who graduated.

But now that the team has had time to adjust to

the new coaching staff and learn about one another throughout the fall, Wallor expects his team to be very competitive.

"I think the thing we learned from the fall and the thing we talked about as a team is mental toughness," Wallor said. "Getting out and being ready to compete at any time, being ready for any adversity that's been put in front of us and how we handle and react to those things in the attitude that we take into what we do every day."

What lies ahead

The Knights hit their stride at this time last year, and though the team didn't have the greatest fall (its best finish was sixth at the Wolf Run Intercollegiate), Wallor certainly thinks his team is talented enough to win some tournaments now that everything is in place.

"I'd like to expect the opportunity to win any tournament we play in, and I think our players should think that way," Wallor said. "If you prepare properly, have a great attitude and a great mindset, you should be able to win some college golf tournaments."

"It takes you sometime to get yourself working into playing well, and you never know when it's going to strike, but I certainly think we have a lot of talent."

After the Gator Invitational this weekend, the Knights will play in four more events before the Conference USA Championship April 25-27.

The Knights will also host the Rio Pinar Invitational March 15-16, an event the team has had a good amount of success at. Last year, the Knights swept both the team and individual titles.

Keep an eye out for

Ward struggled in the fall but went through much of the same last year before picking it up the second half. He later went on to win the individual title at the season-ending C-USA Championship.

Nuno Henriques has played some solid golf so far this season and is playing well heading into the spring. He picked up one top-10 and two top-20 finishes in four events in the fall and is coming off a third-place finish at the New Year's Invitational, an amateur event held in St. Petersburg.

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\$13

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Sister Hazel at the House of Blues
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11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
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SATURDAY

Supervillains at Firestone Live
8 p.m.
\$10

SUNDAY

Daytona 500 at the Daytona International Speedway
1 p.m.
Check back next week for our coverage of the Daytona 500 experience, and a behind-the-scenes look at the SPEED Channel.
\$10

PART 1 OF 2-PART SERIES

AN INSIDE LOOK INTO THE WILD LIFE OF A LATE-NIGHT RESTAURANT EMPLOYEE

Tales from the 2 a.m. shift

KERRI ANNE RENZULLI
Staff Writer

When the last call for alcohol has been heard and the bars close for the night, their often inebriated patrons find a new home for their shenanigans at Silver Mine Subs and Lazy Moon Pizza. Catering to the barhoppers is good business, but it also provides the staff with entertaining stories of drunken debauchery.

Josh Given, junior film and music major, former Silver Mine Subs

employee:

“I worked in a plaza that has two bars in it, and when they would close, we just had nuts coming in. Girls will do anything for free food if they are wasted. This one girl got up on the counter and started grabbing herself screaming, ‘I want your meatballs in my mouth.’ She really wanted a free meatball sub. We weren’t going to give her a free sub. We wanted to get rid of her. She was belligerent. A guy I worked with asked if we should maybe

give her a meatball so she would leave us alone. We didn’t give it to her, though. We didn’t want to encourage that; we wanted her to leave us alone.”

“One dude came in a little after 2 a.m. with a bloody hand. He kept saying, ‘Bro, my hand hurts, bro.’ He told me he was walking from the Knight Library when he saw a Corvette. He yelled ‘screw you’ at the Corvette ... then he punched the mirror off the Corvette. He kept say-

PLEASE SEE **CAR** ON A15



EMIRE KELLY / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

After Knight Library, deko, FUBAR and Underground Bluz close shop, dozens of tired barhoppers file into Lazy Moon for a bite and, often, a few more drinks.

What about BOB

Yet another side to Saget

AUSTIN FOWLER
Staff Writer

He began his career as a safe-for-TV family man and shocked the world when he showed his dirty side.

After years of raunchy stand-up and a career-changing role in *The Aristocrats*, Bob Saget is now trying his hand at “guerilla film-making,” as he hosts a comedy/documentary on A&E called *Strange Days*, which focuses on unique subcultures.

Central Florida Future: Tell us about your new show.

Bob Saget: I’m really excited. It’s a comedy, documentary show.

In the pilot episode, I went to the Ukraine and found some American guys that wanted to get mail-order brides, so I explored the world of mail-order brides.

It’s an hour-long show that explores strange, interesting subcultures. I’ll also be headed to Daytona during Bike Week and hanging out with bikers in the biking culture. We’ve also got a frat guy episode and a survivalist episode in Alaska.

C.F.F.: Subcultures like this seem to be what America wants to see, with shows like *No Reservations* with Anthony Bourdain, where he relates things to food. You also have MTV’s *Jersey Shore*. Any chance we’ll see you fist pumping with *The Situation*?

Saget: Those shows are great, but *Strange Days* is more of a documentary. It’s not *Borat* or anything where I’m out to shock people, and it’s not a tour guide kind of thing. It’s a hybrid type of show with different layers. It’s my viewpoint and getting to know people. Most of those shows are host-driven, but I don’t even look at the camera very much. It’s just me diving into these subcultures. It’s more like guerrilla filmmaking rather than reality television.

PLEASE SEE **CLEANER** ON A14

BOB SAGET

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KISS AND TELL

My self-esteem up for bid: going once ... twice?

Let me give you all a heads-up. The story you are about to read won’t breed any kind of happy-go-lucky moral by the end of it. It won’t be a tale of success, and it certainly won’t be a story that will make you feel any kind of inspiration to go out and change the world. It is simply just a factual account of a night in the life of Jen Glantz.

I haven’t been on a date in too many months, and a



JEN GLANTZ
Columnist

few good friends agreed to save me if I wanted out. The juxtaposition made me agree to be auctioned off at the Knight-Thon Date Auc-

tion for charity this week.

How could this possibly go wrong? If I hold my shoulders back, glue on an ear-to-ear grin and write something catchy and filled with innuendo on my “about me” note card, guys will be bidding their financial aid reimbursement money on me in no time.

And so it begins. I am standing alone on a black platform stage while sweat begins to seep through my yellow tank top and drip

around the edges of my hairline — not my best look.

The guy on the microphone decides to start the bidding at \$10, which makes my facial expression turn from a nervous grin to a double-chinned look of surprise. I remind myself to take deep yoga breaths. I remind myself to keep my shoulders back.

He begins to read the index card. I decide it would be the proper time to play charades and act

out everything he is reading.

“Jen plays guitar.” I bust out my best air guitar.

“Jen writes poetry.” I pretend to scribble on an imaginary notepad.

“Jen can rock your world.”

I get creative and decide to spin around and strike my rock star pose.

I look out into the crowd

PLEASE SEE **EMBARRASSED** ON A15

DOGS, DISHES, DIVORCE AND DEADLINES

Think outside the chocolate box for Valentine's Day gifts

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, the next few days will surely be fraught with preparations for Sweethearts, Pumpkins, Honey-Bunches and the like.

As self-appointed president of the CFCSA (Central Florida Cheap Student Association), I figured there's no time like the present to tackle that pesky gift-giving dilemma: How to keep your non-existent Valentine's Day budget in check.

Let that special someone know just how much you care with the following gift ideas:

1. Car clean-out, wash, detail: Perfect for the love with a full load or busy schedule.

This could mean a visit



CASSIE TURNER
Columnist

to the car wash, or imagine the fun of creating your own steamy car-wash scene.

I'm thinking white tank top, lots of water, bubbles ... need I say more?

2. A spotless house: Who wouldn't want his or her sweetie showing up scantily clad and bent over, scrubbing the floor in a little French maid outfit or English butler bow

tie? Turn up the heat with a few steamy foreign phrases and an accent and watch the scene unfold.

3. Stock the iPod: Dating a lover of literature or an avid reader? Borrow the mp3 player and stock it with a few free podcasts from LearnOutLoud.com.

For example, set the mood with the short story "Young Goodman Brown," by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

There is nothing like a little classic subtle sexuality, and Hawthorne's about as subtle as a train wreck.

For extra points, locate a copy of a syllabus for a course he or she is taking and try to find copies of any books or stories required for that course.

4. Make a mix-tape: Remember making mix-

tapes in high school, or am I totally dating myself here?

For some serious old-school appeal, create a mix-tape with artists similar to your valentine's favorites.

Suggestion: With romance in mind, avoid death metal, gangsta rap and Yanni. Rent a copy of *Say Anything* with John Cusack and re-

enact the famous boom-box scene.

Now, you might be saying, "But I got the coin, and I wanna spend it!"

That's fabulous! What's your number?

I've been looking for a personal Botox fairy.

All kidding aside, whether you have the bucks, bringing your "A-game" into the love

realm requires thinking outside of the box.

If you really want to see your stock value soar, it's the little things that make us gush.

Show your creativity, your passion and that you pay attention. Don't just rely on spending the dough to raise your stock.

Here's to you, Valentine.

Cleaner, but still not *Full House*

FROM A13

C.F.F.: You've made your bones in television, but your passion is stand-up comedy. Any shows planned?

Saget: I'm actually playing the Orlando Hard Rock on Feb. 19, and I can't wait. I did a show a couple of years ago at Central Florida, and it is honestly one of my favorite shows I've ever done. It was just the most polite, energetic crowd. I still talk about it frequently.

C.F.F.: I know a lot of members of my generation are aware by now that you perform a fairly blue (risqué) routine. Do you still shock audience goers awaiting the wholesome Danny Tanner from *Full House*?

Saget: I'm trying to clean up my act, but it doesn't seem to be happening. It's so weird I'm described as blue.

I'm cleaner than a lot of radio guys and stand-up comics. I drop the F-bomb and say [expletive] a lot, but it's not like I'm talking about actual graphic things. I skirt around it.

C.F.F.: I guess people just associate you with your television persona, and it's a shock to the system to hear you speak in such a way.

Saget: Yeah, that was just a two-dimensional character that I played on a great show.

You do years of a television show and you're in family's homes and living rooms. I just go on stage

and enjoy myself. I just love doing it. Like the UCF show, I was so honored. Thousands of kids, and they turned away like 2,500 kids. It was such a great show. I love playing Florida and especially its college crowd.

C.F.F.: I remember at the show, there was a ton of fan interaction. Is that your favorite part of stand-up?

Saget: I really just love people, and sometimes I'm too trusting of my crowd.

Like I said, I usually play near colleges and sometimes elderly people will come to my show, and I'm thinking, "What are you doing here?" and they're like, "We know you're a nice young man. We don't mind the dirty stuff, we like it."

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Car punchers, chip stealers and repeat offenders

FROM A13

ing his hand hurt, because he wanted to tell the story. He asked for a free sub because his hand hurt too, but he didn't get one."

"Another girl came in after 2 a.m. and started talking to me at the register for a long time. She kept saying I was adorable and stuff. I just said, 'Uh, OK, that's cool. Are you going to order a sub?' Finally, she orders a \$5 sub and gives me \$20. She tells me to keep the change, but I tell her no, I can't take advantage of someone being drunk and keeping a \$15 tip. She keeps insisting, though, saying, 'I want you to have it.' Then she says, 'I

have more for you, too,' and lifts up her shirt.

Greyson Charnock, studio art major, Silver Mine Subs employee:

"One time, after all the bars let out, a bunch of guys came in. A bunch of these kids were messing around, trying to steal chips from the front. We told them, 'Hey, you can't do that,' and to stop. They just said, 'Uh, OK, that's cool. Are you going to order a sub?' Finally, she orders a \$5 sub and gives me \$20. She tells me to keep the change, but I tell her no, I can't take advantage of someone being drunk and keeping a \$15 tip. She keeps insisting, though, saying, 'I want you to have it.' Then she says, 'I

While we are working on subs, this one kid from their group jumps behind the line and walks to the back of the store and around the counter and grabs handfuls of chips. I look to my right, and there is this kid

stockpiling chips in his arms. I yell at him, 'What the hell are you doing?!' He dropped them saying, 'My bad, my bad,' and just acted like it was nothing. I thought that was the end of it. They got up and they left the store.

When I start cleaning, the same kid books inside and grabs as many chips as he can from the rack in front and bolts out the front door. I jump over the counter and start chasing him, but he had a getaway car. Him and his buddies had this planned. They had the car pulled up to the curb running. I see him jump in and stick his head out the window laughing at me."

Keeley Sproc, hospitality major, Lazy Moon Pizza employee:

"There is this red-headed girl who always comes in by herself wasted, blacked out for sure. She will sit down next to random guys she doesn't know, and then ask them to do stuff with her. I've seen her dress fall down multiple times, she's thrown

pizza around and smashed her cell phone. She is always in a nice dress with heels and cleavage showing."

Danielle Spisso, theatre studies major, Lazy Moon Pizza employee:

"People always come up to order when they're drunk and asked, 'Can I have a slice of beer and cup of pizza?' So many people

get this mixed up. I've had people lose their cell phone at the register, and when they call it to find it, they are always surprised when I answer. When we've cut someone off because they've had too much, I'll sometimes sell them root beer instead of beer. They never notice. They don't know the difference at that point."

Embarrassed for charity

FROM A13

of people who are crossing their arms, squishing their eyebrows and trying to figure out if I am indeed the most awkward person they have come across.

One of my friends, who I pre-threatened to bid on me, raises his hand. The bidding war between my loyal entourage gets into the \$20 range when I look out into the crowd and see a good-looking gent put his arm half up in the sky. Could it be? And if so, what a great story we will

one day tell our kids of how we met.

But his half arm is not body language for "let me get her." It's just him signaling his friend across the room to get out of there.

I started to turn beet red. The color you turn when you slip and fall in public, or perhaps when you start to choke on a piece of popcorn. I wanted out.

It was my good friend who made the final bid. He saved me from the misery that was written all over my face, which was

reaffirmed by the awkward swaying of my body trying to dance to the beat of the background music.

I replay those five minutes over and over in my head at least six times a day, and my friends tell me I did a good thing for charity.


But I still get nervous that even when I will be able to successfully put this night in the back of my head, there will be pictures and iPhone video clips to remind me — and the world — of my lumbering shenanigans.

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OUR STANCE

Let Bright Futures recipients flee Fla.

The new Bright Futures bill that was filed last month is not the solution Florida needs. In the past few years, state legislators have been desperately seeking a way to successfully curb the cost of Bright Futures while not tanking their political careers.

The bill filed by Rep. Stephen Precourt R-41 has not made much progress in the Florida House of Representatives because many representatives are aware of its disastrous effects on your economic lives after college.

If the bill were to pass, graduates who don't work in the state of Florida for at least a year after graduation would be responsible to pay back their entire scholarship plus interest.

The obvious economic distress prevalent in the United States makes this bill look like political poison. Any legislators looking at the bill can expect a backlash, especially since unemployment has reached 10.6 percent as of last month, according to the U.S. Bureau

of Labor Statistics.

Finding a job after graduation is not guaranteed. Your chances of doing so are even slimmer if you must stay in the state. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics unemployment in Florida reached 11.6 percent as of December 2009.

Floridians are forced to flee the state to find jobs as it is; expecting freshly minted college graduates to have better luck is naïve. Plus, keeping graduates in the state for only a year isn't really helping anyone.

A year isn't enough time to make a significant impact on your career or the state's economy. It will also cost employers to train new employees since they don't have an incentive to stay longer. If the only benefit of being here is to avoid a bill, then many graduates would leave for greener pastures as soon as their year is up.

It would make more sense to create an incentive-based program that would keep recent college graduates in the state for more

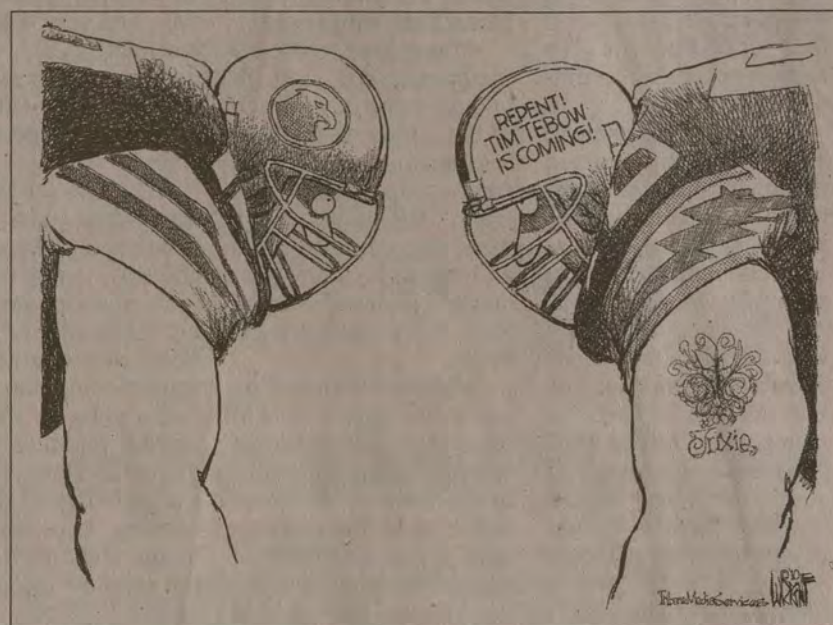
than a year. Since so many jobs have been lost, perhaps a tax credit for entrepreneurial endeavors could work.

The bill has not made much progress since it was introduced but that should not stop you from getting involved. Write to your elected representatives and inform them that they should be finding real solutions for Bright Futures issues, not attempting to hobble future graduates.

You can search for your representative at myfloridahouse.gov.

You can get involved on campus, too. SGA spends much of their time fighting for the futures of students. SGA officials work with representatives and lobbyists to fights things like House Bill 699.

Make sure that during the upcoming elections you make yourself knowledgeable on the candidates experience with politicians. You should elect students that are willing to work hard for your future.



DON WRIGHT / TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Tuition is not the only expensive part

Remember "college week" in high school? You know, the week when college recruiters come to your high school and dazzle you with pictures of their campuses and stories about famous alumni?

Well here's what they neglected to inform me — every day I would be robbed on campus.

OK, not literally, but college was definitely more expensive than I thought, and I'm not just talking tuition. Imagine my surprise when I walked into the campus bookstore for the very first time and saw a price tag stamped on a pack of Scantrons.

Really? I have to pay for Scantrons? How I wish someone had given me the tip-off in high school. I would have stolen at least two boxes from the teacher's supply room had I known they would be coveted like gold in college.

"Oh, but dear, they're free at the Student Union!"

That's wonderful, darling, but I have two exams today. And one of them is a history exam, which means I'll need a Blue Book.

I don't suppose they're passing those out as well? No? Well then off to the bookstore I go, shelling out a few bucks here and there on packs of scantrons and Blue Books, just so I can pass my classes. And here I thought that was covered in tuition.

In addition to hijacking Scantrons from the neighboring high school, I bring my own nourishment to campus now. That's one lesson a certain campus visitor learned quickly.

During a conference in the Teaching Academy, one unfortunate, thirsty woman rushed to the vending machines in a quest to quench her thirst. Needless to say, she was shocked when she saw the price flashing on the machine.

MARISA RAMICCIO
Guest Columnist

"Two-fifty? For a bottle of water? Are you kidding me?"

I couldn't tell who was chuckling louder — me or the Zephyrhills vending machine man. While his laughter was out of greed, mine was out of vindication, because I had experienced something similar not too long before.

The first time I stepped into the Einstein Bros.

Bagels on campus, I was shocked to find that for \$9 I could buy a measly sandwich. Seriously, just a sandwich? I can't even get a drink with that? Strangely, at the Einstein Bros. off-campus, I can get a drink and a side with that.

When I asked the cashier at the on-campus establishment for a combo, he looked at me like I spoke Italian and asked: "What do you mean by 'combo'?"

Well, I think I mean that for \$2,500 a semester, not only should I get an education, but I should also be able to get a reasonably priced beverage and sandwich on the side as well.

Just because I attend college doesn't mean I'm made of money. In fact, a lot of us are scraping by. If anything, shouldn't we be paying less for necessities instead of more? Aren't we entitled to equal pricing at the very least?

This doesn't just hurt college students, either. Companies that partake in this price hike are missing out on valuable customers. Many students bring their own food and drinks from home and attend events offering free food because it costs too much to pay for it.

Even if we aren't entitled to a discount, we should at least be informed of this in high school or even at orientation so we're not blindsided on the first day of school.

I guess you can't have a sandwich and keep the change too.

Refusing a raise is no sacrifice

It was kind of President Hitt to turn down his pay increase during the bad economic climate, but no one expected him to do otherwise.

The president of UCF could have sparked angry outbursts from students and probably faculty if he had accepted the pay bump in this era of tuition hikes and budget cuts.

The reason his decision was expected stems from the fact that he is already paid so much to be the president of UCF.

Hitt's base salary is \$463,000 but with the compensation package his earnings total \$594,730. That includes deferred compensation, retirement pay, club dues and money provided by the state for his vehicle.

It is hard to take President Hitt's decline of a raise as a sign of real sacrifice when he makes more than \$500,000 each year.

He is the second highest-paid public university president in Florida and the 32nd

in the nation. His base salary is \$27,000 more than the median.

Although we are appreciative of Hitt's refusal of a pay raise, we don't really understand why he makes so much money. What has he been doing that warrants such a high salary?

Although UCF is the third largest school in the country, bigger is not always better. It is hard to say that UCF is the third best school in the nation.

If we were, then perhaps Hitt's expensive compensation would make more sense. It would still be difficult to stomach a salary that is almost \$30,000 more than the median pay.

Hitt is not the only person to blame in this salary situation. We are concerned about why the Board of Trustees keeps approving pay increases year after year.

Clearly, they don't think the president is already paid plenty. Are they not aware of the current economic climate or the professors who

were recently let go from UCF?

Classrooms are packed, professors are overworked and entire programs were eliminated because of the budget cuts last year.

We would have been shocked if Hitt had accepted the raise. We are disappointed that it was even recommended.

UCF is not the only school that is dealing with the high salaries of college presidents. There are presidents that deserve recognition for the steps they are taking to help their universities.

Other university presidents are taking pay cuts to offset the economic situations their students and schools are in right now. Pay cuts are happening in almost every industry and they should be happening in higher education, too.

The Board of Trustees should be advising cuts to President Hitt's salary, and he should be approving them.

READER VIEWS

School is for gaining the skills, not a guaranteed job for life

I certainly feel for Arielle, but I hope she realizes that part of her difficulty finding a job may have to do more with our economy in general than UCF's lack of help.

I believe UCF's primary role is to educate students, and the task of finding a job is largely the responsibility of the student.

Most of the professors and administrators at this school have other responsibilities directly related to teaching and research and cannot devote adequate time to locating jobs for students.

When I went to MIT as an undergraduate student, I harbored no illusions that the staff at MIT was going to help me find a job.

Incidentally, they didn't, but they did give me the skills to try to find one on my own. I was lucky to have graduated in the 1990s and

found a job here.

The school's job was to help me learn how to think as a computer scientist. As a graduate, one should use the resources available to all adults to assist in finding a job.

It's unfortunate that President Hitt didn't e-mail Arielle back. I know that even as a measly lecturer who receives far fewer e-mails than Dr. Hitt, I have real trouble responding to all of them. I simply don't have the time.

I try as best as I can. Sometimes I respond in 10 seconds, other times in a couple months, and sometimes never. It's simply a fact of life that very few of us with public jobs, such as teachers, have the time to get to every e-mail we receive. Some of them will slip through the cracks.

So, in summary, I empathize with Arielle, but I also hope she realizes some of the reasons for her predicament.

—ARUP GUHA

MAN ON THE STREET

THE WORD AROUND CAMPUS

'What do you think of the new dental center?'

BEN GLOSSER
Accounting, junior

"I honestly didn't know about a dental center on campus, but I think it's a good idea."

PRESTON DANTONI
Interdisciplinary studies, junior

"I probably wouldn't use it, but right on!"

LISA GOMEZ
Theater, junior

"I think it's cool that they are trying to make the health services better and more accessible to students."

JONATHAN QUINONES
Micro & molecular bio, freshman

"It's more convenient than going to another dentist. I'll probably be going to the dentist more often."

KELVIN LATSON
Hospitality mgmt, sophomore

"I haven't gone yet, so I don't know. I know a couple people who went, and they told me it was OK."

MATTHEW WHITE
English, junior

"I think it's great that there is something available for students so close."

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225 For Rent: Apartments	B	600 Travel	B
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			4	3			
	3	9		2	8	4	
2							5
		7	8		2	1	
			1		4		
		8	6		5	2	
8							9
	6	4		5		7	1
			3		6		

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Holy pilgrimage
- 5 Kids' getaway
- 9 "Gimme a break!"
- 14 Nobelist Wiesel
- 15 "This looks like trouble"
- 16 Leonard Marx, familiarly
- 17 "Get going!"
- 19 Peyotes, e.g.
- 20 She played Donna in the film "Mamma Mia!"
- 21 Sinus specialist, briefly
- 23 Baseball Hall of Famer Speaker
- 24 "1986 Pulitzer-winning Western novel"
- 28 Feel the heat
- 31 Food critic Sheraton
- 32 "Bingo!"
- 33 X-Games bike, briefly
- 35 Run at a red light?
- 38 1968 Trogs Top 10 hit, and a hint to the hidden puzzle theme in the answers to starred clues
- 44 Jeans joint
- 45 Yield to gravity
- 46 Sportage maker
- 47 Fresh response
- 50 Serious-and-funny show
- 53 "Gunpowder, e.g."
- 57 They're not returned
- 58 Bosox great
- 59 Comforting comment
- 63 Parts partner
- 65 "Duffer's thrill
- 68 Native Alaskan
- 69 Treater's words
- 70 Persian Gulf land
- 71 ... and all
- 72 Prime minister before Rabin
- 73 Ancient British Isles settler

DOWN

- 1 Bridge position
- 2 Bum balm
- 3 Fashionable Christian
- 4 Stevenson physician
- 5 ... de-sac
- 6 Yellowfin tuna
- 7 Changes places
- 8 Rising star
- 9 N.C. State's conference
- 10 "Who, me?"
- 11 Tiny
- 12 When Brutus sees Caesar's ghost
- 13 Hullabaloo
- 18 Big-time
- 22 "I didn't need to know that," informally
- 25 Birds' bills
- 26 Humorist Bombeck
- 27 Islamic leader
- 28 Soda
- 29 Grinch victims
- 30 Place for Christmas lights
- 34 Tee choices
- 36 Gospel writer
- 37 Camelot lady
- 39 Removes gently
- 40 Eye-opening theater

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
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63			64		65	66	67					
68					69				70			
71					72				73			

By Nancy Salomon

2/11/10

1	S	I	G	N	E	R	E	S	E	S	E	L
2	S	I	N	E	R	E	S	E	S	E	L	
3	E	N	I	T	I	O	H					
4	M	A	T	R	E	R						
5	T	O	T	A	L							
6	N	E	S	I	N							
7	S	M	O	R								
8	S	N	O	B	I	S						
9	N	E	W	T	E	S						
10	O	Z	O	B								
11	S	A	L									
12	I	T	I	M								
13	S	N	E	W	E	S						
14	E	N	E	T	I	B						
15	H	E	S	E	S	E						

Last issue solved

- 41 Fellows
- 42 Rural prefix
- 43 Beatles' "A ___ in the Life"
- 48 Security threat
- 49 Course for weavers?
- 51 Fired up
- 52 Like some weights
- 53 Bocho series
- 54 City NW of Orlando
- 55 Brand on a patio, maybe
- 56 Hole site
- 60 Foal's parent
- 61 Rink, often
- 62 Canterbury's county
- 64 Some NFL linemen
- 66 Feature of a two-lr. monogram
- 67 Neighbor of Aus.

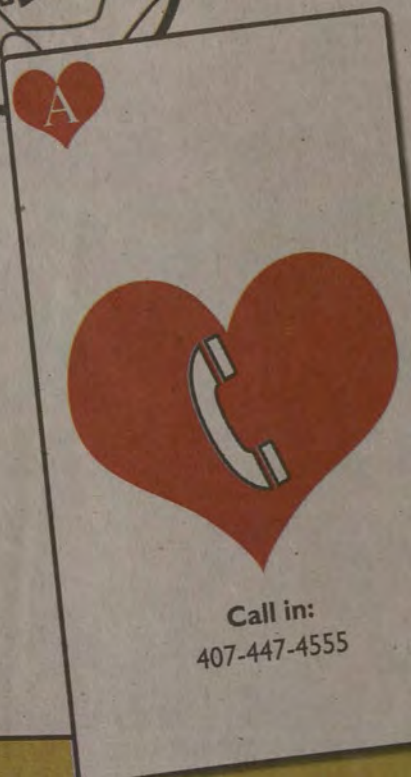
Solution and new puzzles in next issue's Classifieds



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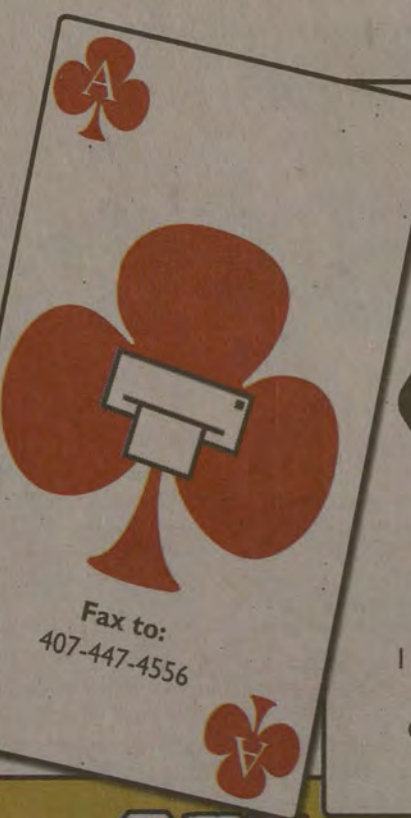
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